



Docket No.: 826.1746

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Toshiki TANAKA, et al.

Serial No. 09/939,700

Group Art Unit: 3662

Confirmation No. 4440

Filed: August 28, 2001

Examiner: A. Sommer

For: OPTICAL TRANSMISSION SYSTEM AND METHOD

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AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed November 22, 2002, and having a period for response set to expire on February 22, 2003. The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please REPLACE claims 4, 5, 11-13, 15 and 16 as follows:

4. (AS ONCE AMENDED) An optical transmission system, comprising:

a bi-directional transmission line including a first and second optical transmission lines; and

a plurality of Raman amplifiers positioned on the bi-directional transmission line, each of the Raman amplifiers using a plurality of pump lights to amplify optical signals on both of the first and second optical transmission lines so that when power of a first pump light, having a first wavelength, among the plurality of pump lights drops to at most a predetermined level in a first Raman amplifier among said plurality of Raman amplifiers, power of a second pump light having a second wavelength substantially equal to the first wavelength is raised in both a second Raman amplifier located next to the first Raman amplifier on a first side and a third Raman amplifier located next to the first Raman amplifier on a second side.